

From: Jared Hansen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:05am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As much as I think the settlement is blatant extortion, unjustly screwing over microsoft to benefit inferior companies who, nonetheless, waged a superior lobbying campaign, I think that it's the least unjust thing that we can hope for at this point.

Please, please just leave this company alone. I'm not going to go into all the common law practices that argue for such a decision, since you probably know of them already.

I'm not going to discuss the philosophy behind personal property rights and free trade, since 1)it's doubtful you have time to read it, and 2)a discussion of that depth does not lend itself to a single email. So all I can do is tell you that a young person, married, out of college but not making much money, would like the government to just back off.

I do not work for microsoft; indeed, I work for a company whose product competes with some of MS's. However, I know injustice when I see it, and extortion from a successful business on these grounds is a prime example.

You can reach me at this address, or at
jared.hansen@bta-usa.com . My daytime telephone number is 312.494.1530, evening 773.529.4651.

I am going to be an attorney (I've been accepted into Georgetown for Fall 2002 already; I await replies from Yale, University of Chicago, Northwestern and Columbia), and it is my goal to one day dismantle the monstrosity that is this country's antitrust system. I only mention that so that, in the event that I actually accomplish this goal, whoever read this email might remember it.

Cheers
jeh